

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first paragraph of the specification after the title as follows:

-- Reference to Related Applications

This application is a continuation of co-pending application Serial No. 10/282,755, filed on October 29, 2002 in the name of the same inventor, and which claims priority to provisional application Serial No. 60/336,002, entitled "Devices, Methods and Assemblies for Intervertebral Disc Repair and Regeneration", and provisional application Serial No. 60/336,332, entitled "Pretreatment of Cartilaginous Endplates Prior to Treatment of the Intervertebral Disc with an Injectable Biomaterial", both of which were filed on November 1, 2001, and the disclosure of which are both incorporated herein by reference. - -